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BOOK REVIEWS

IN CHARGE OF

M. E. CAMERON, R.N.

MATERIA MEDICA AND THERAPEUTICS: A Text-Book for Nurses. By Linette A. Parker, B.Sc. (Columbia University) R. N. Bachelor's Diploma in Education, Teachers College, Columbia University, New York. Illustrated with 29 Engravings and 3 plates. Lea & Febiger, Philadelphia and New York. Price, \$1.50.

The problem of teaching materia medica is solved in the most satisfactory manner by the use of Miss Parker's text-book. It is divided into six parts; these in turn are made up of chapters, each of which contains matter for one lesson, or, where the subject covers more than is convenient for one lesson, it may be subdivided into two or more lessons. Thus, drugs are taught by their action on the systems: the nervous system, muscular system, circulatory and so on. Besides the various drugs, their derivation, preparation and use, the book takes up the use of other therapeutic measures, such as psychotherapy, hydrotherapy, electrotherapy and the uses of serum, vaccine, and ray therapy. There is, too, a chapter concerning poisonous and habit-forming drugs and legislation relative to such. There is a chapter devoted to suggestions for review of the work done, one on prescriptions, another on experiments and demonstrations and, in fact, nothing is omitted which would be of use to either pupil or teacher.

THE HEALTHY BABY. By Roger H. Dennett, M.D. Instructor in Diseases of Children in the New York Post Graduate Medical School; Assistant Attending Physician to the Babies' Wards in the New York Post Graduate Hospital; Chief of Clinic in the Post Graduate Dispensary for Children; Fellow of the New York Academy of Medicine. The Macmillan Company, New York. Price, \$1.00.

This book, which is written that every baby may be made a healthy baby, is addressed to mothers and to those who undertake the care of young children. It is, nevertheless, a book which all nurses will find profitable reading.

"Lack of success in life is due in many cases to physical defects that might have been avoided by an intelligent bringing up," says Dr. Den-

nett, and again he remarks, "The baby whose digestion is ruined by wrong feeding may grow up to be a dyspeptic adult who can neither do his share of work in the world nor receive his share of pleasure out of it." And again, "The mother who employs a nurse should devote some of her time to the baby and should supervise all its care. To do this she must know how. It is bad policy to have a poor nurse and a good cook; if a choice must be made between the two, the nurse should have the superior intelligence."

That Dr. Dennett is in love with the subject of his book, no reader can doubt, and it is hard to think of any detail possible for the development and maintenance of good health and proper habits in a child that has been overlooked or omitted.

MENTAL MEDICINE AND NURSING. For use in Training Schools for Nurses and in Medical Classes and A Ready Reference for the General Practitioner. By Robert Howland Chase, A.M., M.D., Physician-in-Chief, Friends' Asylum for the Insane; Late Resident Physician State Hospital, Norristown, Pa.; Member of American Medico-Physiological Association; Member of the Neurological Association, Philadelphia. J. B. Lippincott Co., Philadelphia and London. Price, \$1.50.

The fault with this book from the nurses' point of view would be that it is concerned with medicine to the exclusion of nursing. The book proper is devoted to the analyses of mental diseases and only a few pages are given to actual treatment and nursing. The subject, Mental Nursing, is well covered in as practical a manner as possible and the writer claims to make it plain and elementary in character. Beginning with a brief description of the nervous system and its functions it arrives, in Part III, at Insanity, its Causes and Symptoms, and the effect it produces upon the mind and body of its victims. Part IV is devoted to the classification of different forms of mental diseases and Part V takes up the treatment and nursing.

OUTLINES OF INTERNAL MEDICINE. For the use of Nurses. By Clifford Bailey Farr, A.M., M.D., Instructor in Medicine, University of Pennsylvania; Assistant Visiting Physician, Philadelphia General Hospital; Pathologist to the Presbyterian Hospital, etc. Illustrated with 71 Engravings and 5 plates. Lea & Febiger, Philadelphia and New York. 1915.

This book is intended to fill the great need of something between the extremely inadequate teaching of medicine, furnished in the majority